nections in Madhya Pradesh as on the 31st March, 1988; and

(b) by when these are likely to be given telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Madhya Pradesh as on 31st March, 1988 is 48832.

(b) By the end of Seventh Five Year Plan, it has been proposed to provide on an average telephone connection to those applicants who have registered upto 1.4.87 in exchange system of capacity 2000 lines and above, upto 1.4.88 in medium size exchange system and, upto 1.4.90 in rural exchanges depending on supply of equipment and associated stores for works.. The remaining applicants will be provided telephone connections progressively during the 8th Five Year Plan.

Assistance Services in 199

1411. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether assistance service on Telephone Number 199 etc. continue to be bad in Delhi and elsewhere despite computerisation; and

(b) whether any spot surprise checks are conducted by senior staff each day and if so, what are the details thereof indicating results achieved and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The performance of telephone number 199 service is fairly satisfactory. But, there is scope for further improvement in 199 service. This service is not computerised so far.

(b) Spot surprise checks by way of test calls as also personal visits are made by the officers. Whenever any deterioration is observed, appropriate remedial action is taken.

Chari Committee Report

1412. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited has flayed the Chari Committee for its unfavourable observations relating to CIL's working;

(b) if so, what are the details of the recommendations made by the Chari Committee; and

(c) the action contemplated by Government against CIL for not following the recommendations of the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) Coal India Limited have sent their comments on the report of Chari Committee. In these comments Coal India Ltd. have expressed disagreement with some of the findings and observations made in the report.

(b) Briefly, the salient features of the report are:—

1. Though production has increased, the objective of nationalisation cannot be said to have been fully achieved.

2. Massive investments in import of technology and equipment have not reduced cost of production.

3. Import of coking coal can and should be avoided by improving the performance of washeries and delinking the suspect sources of supply.

4. Quality base for statistical report should be in terms of standard coal.

5. Concept of OMS should include all inputs instead of manpower alone.

6. Undue emphasis on opencast mining should be avoided.

7. Gradewise price structure needs to be rationalised.

8. Exploration should be demand based and not project based for creating a shelf of projects from which a choice could be made based on least cost options.

9. Getting land, sand for stowing, adequate power, timely supply of equipments, delay in environmental clearance are some of the major problems.

10. In order to achieve the desired production level by 2000, the projects needs to be planned from today, considering the long gestation period.

11. Jharia Reconstruction project should include proper definition of scope for proper utilisation of coals from lower seams.

12. 'Decontrol' of coal has certain positive aspects that may commend its adoption.

13. Board of Directors of Coal India Ltd. needs to be reorganised and subsidiary companies should be freed from interference by holding company. Executives should be permitted extension till the age of 65 years.

(c) Shri Chari has submitted the report to the Advisory Board on Energy who had entrusted to him to undertake such a study. The report is being considered by the Advisory Board on Energy. As per the procedure laid-down, Board's recommendations will be considered by a Special Committee of Secretaries to facilitate follow-up action. The question of implementing the recommendations of the Chari Committee by Coal India Ltd. will arise after Government's decisions on the various recommendations are finally taken.

Power Theft in Delhi

1413. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power worth Rs. one crore is stolen daily in Delhi;

(b) whether any study has been conducted in this regard; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to contain this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Price Rise of Cough Syrups, Vaccines and Single Ingredient Vitamins

1414. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cough Syrups, Vaccines and Single Ingredient branded Vitamin formulations were under price control under DPCO, 1979.

(b) whether it is also a fact that these products have been price decontrolled under DPCO, 1987.

(c) whether it is a fact that the prices of these medicines have gone up as high as 2000 per cent; and

(d) if so, what was the price of major selling Cough Syrups, Single Ingredient Vitamin branded formulations, Tetnusantitoxin, Diptheria, Pertussis, Triple Antigen and Measles Vaccines before DPCO, 1987, the present price of each and percentage increase in each case?